

The State Board of Education/State Board for Vocational Education held a work session on Thursday, May 15, 2014 in the Cabinet Room of the Townsend Building, Dover, Delaware.

Present were: Teri Quinn Gray, President; G. Patrick Heffernan, Randall L. Hughes, II, Terry M. Whittaker and Donna R. Johnson, who serves as the State Board's Executive Director.

Also in attendance were Ilona Kirshon, Deputy Attorney General; Michael Watson, Katia Foret, Kelly Hunter, Carolyn Lazar, Harriet Dichter and Reese Robinson.

The work session began at 9:40 a.m.

Early Childhood Update

The Board received an update on the Early Challenge Grant and an update from Harriet Dichter from the Office of Early Learning on the status of early learning in Delaware. Reese Robinson from the Technology Resources and Data Development work group at the Department provided the Board with information on the Early Learning Insight (ELI) which is a longitudinal, integrated early learning database. It also provides an online dashboard for educators and provides reports.

Assessment Update

Carolyn Lazar and Katia Foret from the Department's Office of Assessment presented an update on the Smarter Balanced Field Test. The field testing began in March and will continue until June 13, 2014. Ninety-four schools are participating and represent all districts and charter schools. Recommendations have been made from the field testing that include use of a prep day prior to the performance task classroom activity, need for hard stops in between sections of the test as well as incremental rewind. Other suggestions were adjusting the volume without exiting the test and the number pad on the screen which is cumbersome.

Adjournment

The work session adjourned at 12:41 p.m.